

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.     A method for managing devices using a virtual device domain, the  
2 method comprising:  
3           establishing a virtual device for each physical device of one or more  
4 devices associated with a user; and  
5           synchronizing the virtual device with one or more other virtual devices.

1           2.     The method claim 1, further comprising synchronizing the virtual  
2 device with external databases.

1           3.     The method of claim 1, wherein establishing a virtual device for  
2 each physical device comprises creating the virtual device in a virtual device  
3 domain and updating settings in the virtual device..

1           4.     The method of claim 3, wherein the settings comprise configuration  
2 and personal settings, synchronizing the virtual device with one or more other  
3 virtual devices, is based on a domain configuration.

1           5.     The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the virtual device  
2 with one or more other virtual devices is based on a domain configuration.

1           6.     A computer program product that manages devices using a virtual  
2 device domain, the computer program product comprising:

3           computer code to:

4           establish a virtual device within a virtual device domain for each  
5 physical device associated with a user; and

6           synchronize the virtual device with one or more virtual devices in  
7 the virtual device domain.

1           7.     The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising a  
2 user interface to facilitate administration of the virtual devices.

1           8.     The computer program product of claim 6, wherein the computer  
2     code includes code to administer configuration and personal settings, and the  
3     virtual device is synchronized with one or more other virtual devices, based on a  
4     domain configuration.

1           9.     A system for managing devices using a virtual domain, the system  
2     comprising:  
3             a number of physical devices associated with a user; and  
4             a virtual device domain including virtual devices for each of the number of  
5     physical devices, wherein the virtual devices include device capability  
6     information for corresponding physical devices, and wherein the number of  
7     physical devices are synchronized by the corresponding virtual devices.

1           10.    The system of claim 9, wherein synchronization of the virtual  
2     devices is based on a domain configuration.

1           11.    The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual device is located in the  
2     network.

1           12.    The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual device domain is in a  
2     personal computer.

1           13.    The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual devices can be  
2     administered by the user over a network.

1           14.    The system of claim 13, wherein the network is the Internet.

1           15.    The system of claim 9, wherein the physical devices communicate  
2     data to the virtual devices to provide a backup of the data.

1           16.    The system of claim 9, wherein the Virtual Device Domain resides  
2     in a server associated with a communication provider.

1           17.    The system of claim 9, wherein the Virtual Device Domain  
2     comprises domain configuration including transcoding rules.

1           18.    The system of claim 9, wherein the synchronization follows a  
2   SyncML specification.

1           19.    The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual devices have  
2   relationships between each other defined by a configuration and used in  
3   administering and managing the Virtual Device Domain, wherein the  
4   administering and managing is done using an application that provides a visual  
5   presentation of the virtual devices and the relationships.

1           20.    A business method for providing a virtual device domain including  
2   virtual devices corresponding to physical devices associated with a user, the  
3   business method comprising:

4           associating a communication service with a plurality of physical devices;  
5   and

6           managing the plurality of physical devices using virtual devices in a virtual  
7   device domain, wherein managing the plurality of physical devices includes  
8   synchronizing the virtual devices.

1           21.    The business method of claim 20, wherein managing the plurality  
2   of physical devices comprises tracking services and configurations of the virtual  
3   devices in the virtual device domain for billing purposes.

1           22.    The business method of claim 20, further comprising synchronizing  
2   the virtual devices according to a payment plan configuration.